

# WASHOE COUNTY REGIONAL COMMUNICATION SYSTEM

## P25 TECHNICAL ADVISORY COMMITTEE

Keith Mullen, Chair, City of Sparks  
Austin Mills, Vice Chair,  
Washoe County School District  
Robert Allen, City of Reno  
Jenn Felter, Washoe County  
Shane Akerson, Truckee Meadow Fire  
Protection District

*\*\*Meeting Minutes\*\**

**Thursday, September 15, 2022**

**Washoe County Administration Complex  
1001 East Ninth Street, Reno, Nevada, 89512  
Building A, Second Floor Caucus Room**

This meeting was scheduled to begin directly after the 800 MHz Users Committee meeting but no earlier than 10:30 a.m.

This meeting was held at a physical location with a teleconference option.

Committee website: [https://www.washoecounty.gov/technology/board\\_committees/800mhz\\_users/index.php](https://www.washoecounty.gov/technology/board_committees/800mhz_users/index.php)

### 1. **CALL TO ORDER AND ROLL CALL** [Non-action item]

The meeting was called to order at 11:20 a.m.

#### **Present**

- |  |               |
|--|---------------|
| • City of Reno                             | Robert Allen  |
| • City of Sparks                           | Keith Mullen  |
| • Washoe County School District            | Austin Mills  |
| • Truckee Meadows Fire Protection District | Shane Akerson |
| • Washoe County                            | Jenn Felter   |

#### **Absent**

All Committee members were present

Washoe County Deputy District Attorney Keith Munro was also present.

### 2. **PUBLIC COMMENTS** [Non-action item] – Comment heard under this item will be limited to three (3) minutes per person and may pertain to matters both on and off the P25 Technical Advisory Committee agenda. The P25 Technical Advisory Committee will also hear public comment during individual action items, with comment limited to three (3) minutes per person. Comments are to be made to the P25 Technical Advisory Committee as a whole.

There was no response to the call for public comment; no emails had been submitted prior to the meeting.



QUALITY  
PUBLIC SERVICE



INTEGRITY



EFFECTIVE  
COMMUNICATION

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3. **APPROVAL OF JUNE 16, 2022, MINUTES** [For Possible Action] – Committee members may identify any additions or corrections to the draft minutes as transcribed.

Jenn Felter, Washoe County, moved to approve the minutes as written; Austin Mills, Washoe County School District, provided the second. There was no response to the call for Committee or public comment. Upon a call for the vote, the motion carried unanimously.

4. **ELECTION OF OFFICERS** [For Possible Action]

a. Secretary

Jenn Felter, Washoe County, nominated and moved to elect Robert Allen, City of Reno, as Secretary. Austin Mills, Washoe County School District, seconded the motion. There were no other nominations, and no public comment was provided. Upon a call for a vote, the motion carried unanimously.

5. **NEVADA SHARED RADIO SYSTEM UPDATE** [For Discussion Only] – A review and discussion on the progress of Washoe County, NDOT and NV Energy on Nevada Shared Radio System project, including but not limited to, progress of planning, design and construction activities in Region 2 of NSRS, end-user equipment installation and programming, and project expenses. *Quinn Korbolic & Melissa Lawney, Washoe County Technology Services*

Melissa Lawney, Washoe County Technology Services reviewed her [presentation](#) reviewing the System Status Update focusing on software updates, microwave installation schedule, planned outages, contractor challenges, plans and suggestions for redundancy of communication links, and challenges with Spectrum and Ophir sites. There are a number of issues with the vendors including installation quality issues, field personnel and engineers are not in alignment to ensure a complete installation, missing components, communication break downs between contractor and subcontractors, resources being spread too thin and limited knowledge that has required on the job training; and scheduling and outage sequencing constantly changing. She spoke to the need to move the timing of the Biltmore site up. The changes have impacted the ability for the Dispatch Centers to be properly staffed and prepared for the outages.

Jenn Felter, Washoe County, questioned if it would be possible to delay the Snow Flake installation recognizing that will have an expected long outage and there are so many known issues.

Ms. Lawney reviewed the greenfield sites. Currently the work for the Seven Lakes site is undergoing the NEPA review which typically takes four months so it is hoped that by the conclusion of that, a new coordinator will be assigned. Lease agreement terms are being clarified for Ash Fields and Red Peak; the Smokey Quartz review may take longer to ensure proper steps are taken to ensure protection for the sage grouse. Sites are being grouped based on the timing of expected expenditure. Site implementation timing is still fluid and up for discussion though it is unlikely complete sites could be cancelled without a breach of contract with partners or leaving vast regions without adequate coverage. Mr. Atwell requested the ability for the agencies to review the timeline and provide input as to timing or deferring sites. P25 equipment installation for Mt. Rose and Slide Mountain will occur in 2022. The others are dependent upon backhaul and having the newer technology available. The other sites are

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scheduled for summer 2023. She also reviewed needs and updates relating to software, radio shop moves, fleet mapping, personality development consolidation, programming, and mobile installation (slide 13). Most schedules are delayed by a couple of months.

Agencies were encouraged to plan for radio purchases; warranty start can be delayed until installation. Every radio and piece of equipment will need to be updated to include new sites and system IDs. A schedule is being developed to provide for onsite programming; power, space, internet and Wi-Fi is required. It is expected that up to twelve mobile installations per day can be accomplished. Harris is contracted to provide the programming for the new system and will provide "birth certificates" with details of programming and ready for new system. Robert Allen, City of Reno, questioned how best to manage the mobiles and how long those will need to be taken out of service. It is unknown how many people Harris will be able to provide for the programming and how they will manage that part of the process. Different approaches were discussed. It was advised that radio orders are taking six months or more; and, being able to ensure that radios are received within the window planned for Harris to be onsite for programming. Ms. Lawney shared if getting those to line up isn't possible, it is reasonable to discuss alternatives with Harris. To reduce the time it will take for the new programming, agencies could ensure firmware updates are done in advance. There was discussion of how the issuance of LIDs is being managed. Eventually, the old personalities relating to the EDAC system will need to be removed. There were questions about any upcoming buyback programs. The Harris representative, Claire Pender, shared she wasn't aware of any.

Ms. Lawney reviewed the 2023-2024 schedule for in-person training; online training is available now. She shared a potential revised schedule to move site builds out to Region 3.

6. **P25 TECHNICAL ADVISORY COMMITTEE MEMBER/STAFF ANNOUNCEMENTS, REQUESTS FOR INFORMATION AND SELECTION OF TOPICS FOR FUTURE AGENDAS** [Non-action item] – No discussion among P25 Technical Advisory Committee members will take place on this item. The next regular meeting is scheduled for December 15, 2022, after the conclusion of the 800 MHz Users meeting and no earlier than 10:30 a.m.

None

7. **PUBLIC COMMENTS** [Non-action item] – Comment heard under this item will be limited to three (3) minutes per person and may pertain to matters both on and off the P25 Technical Advisory Committee agenda. The P25 Technical Advisory Committee will also hear public comment during individual action items, with comment limited to three (3) minutes per person. Comments are to be made to the P25 Technical Advisory Committee as a whole.

There was no response to the call for public comment.

8. **ADJOURNMENT** [Non-action item]

The meeting adjourned at 12:26 p.m.

Approved as written in session December 15, 2022.

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